



Stat. of Utah  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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January 30, 2003

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT  
7099 3400 0016 8896 2772

Mr. Paul Feltch  
Uintah County Roads Department  
P. O. Box 291  
Vernal, Utah 84078

Re: Bond Review and Reiteration of Issues Raised in March 7, 2001, Letter; Uintah County Road Department; Asphalt Ridge Mine, M/047/022; Uintah County, Utah

Dear Mr. Feltch:

On March 7, 2001, we sent you a letter requesting clarification of certain issues with regard to the disturbed area acreages for the Asphalt Ridge Mine. We have no record of a response from you, but responses from Crown Asphalt Corporation have helped with some of these issues. There is, however, certain information we need in order to resolve these questions.

1. The first question in our March 2001 letter regarding the Uintah County portion of the disturbed area concerns a 10-acre disturbed area in the N $\frac{1}{2}$  N $\frac{1}{2}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 31, Township 4 South, Range 21 East. We asked whether there is actually a 10-acre area in this section for which the county is responsible. There is an operating agreement between Crown and Uintah County dated May 20, 2002. This agreement indicates all of the disturbance in Section 31 will be the reclamation responsibility of Crown unless the County disturbs additional area within this section. Therefore, it appears that the County does not have any continued reclamation liability in Section 31. Please confirm whether this is correct.
2. The map submitted by Crown Asphalt Corporation in September 2000 indicates the County disturbed area is 70.5 acres and the reclaimed area is 20 acres for a total of 90.5 acres of disturbance. Our measurements of this map gave values of 43.4 acres for the disturbed area and 18.1 acres for the reclaimed area for a total of 61.5 acres. We asked that you confirm our measurements or provide figures of your own. We still need this information.
3. The final issue relates to the 20-acre "County Reclaimed" area as shown on the September 2000 map. We indicated it may be eligible for bond release but that parts may have been redisturbed. Please let us know if you would like to seek release for any of this area and we will be glad to evaluate it at the first opportunity (which may not be until spring, 2003).

The Division performs periodic reviews of reclamation surety estimates to verify their accuracy. We make adjustments for escalation and any site modifications that may require a change in the amount of reclamation surety presently being held for the site. Division policy requires that reclamation surety estimates being held by the Minerals Reclamation Program include a five year escalation component. The surety estimates are to be reevaluated every five years.

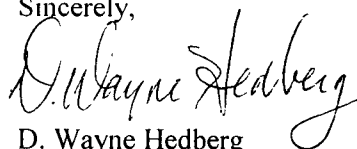
Our records indicate that the reclamation surety estimate for Uintah County's Asphalt Ridge Mine was due for review in 2001. To assist us in our review of this cost estimate, we request an updated map of your mine site showing current surface facilities and all mining related disturbances. Please provide the updated map at a scale of not less than 1 inch = 500 feet, which includes: buildings, stationary mining/processing equipment, roads, utilities, power lines, drainage structures (i.e. berms, culverts, ditches, canals, etc.), topsoil, ore and product storage areas, overburden/waste dumps, tailings or processed waste facilities, solid and liquid wastes, evaporation ponds, and wastewater discharge treatment and containment facilities, etc. This map should include all areas which have been affected by this operation to date. Please ignore items listed above which do not apply to your site, especially those which are the responsibility of Crown Asphalt Corporation or Crown Asphalt Ridge, LLC Those will be bonded separately.

If any reclamation has been completed on the site since the last surety estimate review, please provide a separate map of the same scale as the mine facilities and disturbed area map, clearly identifying these reclaimed areas, the acreage affected, and the date of the reclamation. Please cross-hatch or shade the areas to identify the reclamation treatments (i.e. ripping, regrading, mulching, seeding, etc.) which have been applied. There may be areas at the mine that have been reclaimed and could be released. We would be happy to evaluate these areas, and this could reduce the amount of your bond.

Please provide this information within the next 60 days or no later than March 31, 2003. After we receive this information, we will likely schedule a site inspection to verify the maps and to better understand how the reclamation was accomplished.

If you have questions about these information requirements, please call me at 801-538-5286 or Paul Baker at 801-538-5261. Questions concerning the bond review should be directed to Doug Jensen at 801-538-5382. Thank you for your cooperation and prompt attention to this request.

Sincerely,



D. Wayne Hedberg  
Permit Supervisor  
Minerals Regulatory Program

jb  
cc: Will Stokes, SITLA  
Dan O'Leary, Crown Asphalt Ridge, LLC  
Doug Jensen, DOGM  
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